AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 11, 2009 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 22, 2009 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 26, 2009

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009-10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 291

Introduced by Assembly Member Saldana (Coauthor: Assembly Member Ruskin)

February 13, 2009

An act to add Section 30825 to the Public Resources Code, relating to coastal resources.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 291, as amended, Saldana. Coastal resources: coastal development permits: penalties.

The California Coastal Act of 1976 requires any person undertaking development in the coastal zone to obtain a coastal development permit issued by the California Coastal Commission in accordance with prescribed procedures. The act authorizes civil liability to be imposed on any person who performs or undertakes development that is in violation of the act or that is inconsistent with any previously issued coastal development permit, subject to specified maximum and minimum amounts, varying according to whether the violation is intentional and knowing.

The bill would prohibit the commission from filing as complete or acting upon an application for a coastal development permit from any person if that person applying for a coastal development permit has a record of unresolved violations of the act for development on any property that is subject to, or is in common and contiguous ownership

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with any property that is subject to an existing violation case for which a violation notification letter has been sent, or a cease and desist order, restoration order, or notice of violation has been issued or recorded until the violations have violation has been resolved. The bill would also provide that this requirement would not apply if the executive director of the commission determines that the application includes a provision that would fully resolve the violation consistent with the act. The bill would authorize the commission to resolve any unresolved dispute between the executive director and an applicant regarding the implementation of the above provision at a noticed hearing. This bill would authorize the commission to file as complete an application for a coastal development permit for development on such a property if the violation is de minimus. This bill would prohibit the commission from taking action on the application until the de minimus violation has been resolved, as determined by the executive director.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 30825 is added to the Public Resources 2 Code, to read:

30825. (a) The Except as provided in subdivision (d), the commission shall not file as complete or act upon an application for a coastal development permit from any person who has been issued a notice of intent, cease and desist order, restoration order, or a notice of violation for development on any property that is subject to, or is in common and contiguous ownership with any property that is subject to, an open, existing violation case for which a violation notification letter has been sent, or a cease and desist order, restoration order, or notice of violation has been issued or recorded pursuant to Section 30809, 30810, 30811, or 30812, in addition to any other penalties until the violation has been resolved, as determined by the executive director and consistent with this division.

- (b) Subdivision (a) does not apply if the executive director determines that the application includes a provision that would fully resolve the violation consistent with this division.
- (c) Any unresolved dispute between the executive director and an applicant regarding the implementation of this section may be

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resolved by the commission at a noticed hearing pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 13056 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

- (d) (1) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the commission may file as complete an application for a coastal development permit for development on a property described in subdivision (a) if the violation is a de minimus violation. If the commission accepts an application to which this subdivision applies, the commission may not take action on the application until the violation has been fully resolved, as determined by the executive director.
- (2) For purposes of this subdivision, "de minimus violation" means a violation that is so minor in nature that it may be easily resolved through voluntary actions on the part of the property owner.